

Lincoln Mondy

From: Lincoln Mondy
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 11:04 AM
To: Lincoln Mondy
Subject: Facebook's Role in the Decay of Democracy in Cambodia

Hi,

As Facebook is grappling with privacy concerns, I wanted to make sure you were aware how Cambodia's authoritarian leader, Hun Sen, is manipulating the platform to maintain his power while hindering a fair and free election, attacking civil society activists, and dismantling the free press.

In 2017, Facebook began using Cambodia and five other countries as guinea pigs to test news feed changes. The experiment siloed content from official pages like news organizations into a new section. As a result, independent news publishers in Cambodia began to see a drastic decline in engagement. Meanwhile, **Hun Sen's official Facebook page has 9.7 million Facebook likes, while Cambodia only has 6.3 million Facebook users**. Research analyzing recent Hun Sen's Facebook likes within a 30-day period found that a majority of the likes came from India, the Philippines, and Myanmar – countries known for hosting click farms where users can buy likes.

Sam Rainsy, the exiled Cambodian opposition leader, requested information from Facebook and has been calling out Hun Sen's use of the social media platform. Now, he's facing legal charges from Hun Sen, including defamation for accusing the government of buying Facebook likes. **Facebook has denied all of Rainsy's requests – and the case is before the Northern District of California on July 30.**

As democracy in Cambodia deteriorates, I wanted to see if you may be interested in speaking with Sam Rainsy and others leaders with the Cambodian National Rescue Movement about the role of Facebook and how Hun Sen is turning to the social media giant to hold his power.

Thanks,
Lincoln

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This is distributed by BerlinRosen Ltd. on behalf of the Cambodia National Rescue Movement. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

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Lindsey Giostra

From: Lindsey Giostra
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 10:04 AM
To: Lindsey Giostra
Subject: As democracy crumbles, Cambodian opposition party seeks support

Hi,

I wanted to share recent news around Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen's human rights violations and authoritarian actions and the ongoing efforts of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) to restore democracy in the country. Leaders with the CNRP are available to discuss these developments.

- On Tuesday, former Cambodian opposition leader Kem Sokha was sentenced to an additional six months in prison while he awaits his trial for false charges of treason against Prime Minister Hun Sen's government. A large group of CNRP supporters gathered outside the court only to be chased away and dispersed by security. Mu Sochua, Vice President of CNRP, said of the charges against him: "This is a political case that will require a political solution."
- Mu Sochua testified before the Subcommittee on International Human Rights in Canada's House of Commons with her guest Kong Saphea, who was brutally beaten by Prime Minister Hun Sen's bodyguards following a string of opposition attacks. After her testimony, Mu Sochua gathered with members of the Cambodia-Canadian community and shared her remarks via Facebook Live.
- Ahead of his meeting with Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Taro Kono next week, Hun Sen said the meeting will not include discussions of CNRP. While critics reject Japan's soft stance, Japan is concerned about Cambodia's close ties to China and foreign investments.
- Following the UN, United States, EU and others asserting strong criticisms of Hun Sen and the Cambodian government, the Vietnamese expressed their concerns of Hun Sen's close ties with China and the ongoing deportation of Vietnamese citizens from Cambodia.
- On Sunday, Australian MP Mark Butler called on the Australian government to speak out and support the Cambodian people after the Cambodia-Australian community was faced with threats of violence from Hun Sen at the Australian ASEAN Summit.

Please let me know if you're interested in speaking with leaders of the CNRP.

Thanks,
Lindsey

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Lindsey Giostra

From: Lindsey Giostra
Sent: Monday, April 2, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Lindsey Giostra
Subject: RE: ICYMI: Cambodia's Politically-Motivated voter Registration

Hi, apologies for the double email, but I wanted to clarify that we are sending this out on behalf of the Cambodia National Rescue Movement.

From: Lindsey Giostra
Sent: Monday, April 2, 2018 4:31 PM
To: Lindsey Giostra <Lindsey.Giostra@berlinrosen.com>
Subject: ICYMI: Cambodia's Politically-Motivated voter Registration

Hi,

As international outcry grows around the Cambodia government's authoritarian actions, I wanted to make sure you saw this story from VOA reporting that thousands of soldiers marched into Cambodia's northern Siem Reap province during their 70-day voter registration period in 2017 to inflate the voters rolls in a region that had increasingly supported the opposition party, Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), in recent elections. The investigation found that "multiple communes in northern Siem Reap saw large spikes in voter registration, far exceeding the national average, that cannot be explained by any known settlement patterns."

You can read the story here: <https://www.voacambodia.com/a/ready-aim-vote-cambodia/4323603.html>

The story makes the case that this is a defensive move to retain the appearance of electoral legitimacy in the July election. Recently, the international community, including the [US](#), [EU](#) and [UN](#) have expressed deep concerns about the deterioration of democracy in Cambodia and urged the government to reinstate the CNRP to ensure free and fair elections this summer.

If you're interested in covering this at all, **leaders with the CNRP are available to comment.**

Thanks,
Lindsey

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